

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are requested for claims 46-64 in view of the following remarks.

Statement of Interview

As an initial matter, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's counsel during the telephone interview of February 19, 2009. The comments presented herein reflect the substance of the issues discussed during the interview.

Status of the Application

Claims 46-64 are pending in this application. Claims 1-45 were previously cancelled. Claims 46-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2. Claims 46-56, 59, and 62-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,592,159 A to Tsai *et al.* (the "Tsai patent"). Claims 57, 58, 60, and 61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tsai patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,196,822 A to Bertin *et al.* (the "Bertin patent"). Claims 46 and 54 have been amended.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

According to the outstanding Office Action, claims 46-64 are indefinite. In response, Applicant has amended independent claims 46 and 54. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

According to the outstanding Office Action, the Tsai patent anticipates the subject matter of claims 46-56, 59, and 62-64. In response, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of these claims is moot in light of the amendments to independent claims 46 and 54.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

According to the outstanding Office Action, the combination of the Tsai and Bertin patents renders each of claims 57, 58, 60, and 61 obvious. In response, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of these claims is also moot in light of the amendments to independent claims 46 and 54.

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If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #102167.57012US).

Respectfully submitted,

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